

05-24-04

61

ASSOCIATED DISTRIBUTING, INC.

7 RCE
3714

173 Litton Drive
Lexington, South Carolina 29073
(803) 996-2901
Fax: (803) 996-2903



Via Federal Express

May 21, 2004

Mail Stop RCE
Commissioner for Patents
PO Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Re: Amended Application No. 09/977,938

Dear Commissioner:

Enclosed herewith, please find the Reply for Patent Application No. 09/977,938 along with the Request for Continued Examination and appropriate fee, submitted on behalf of John Marshall Armstrong and John Garrett Armstrong.

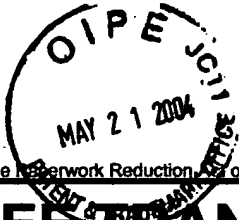
If any additional information is needed, please feel free to call. For now, I remain,

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Marshall Armstrong", written over a horizontal line.

Marshall Armstrong

RECEIVED
MAY 27 2004
TECHNOLOGY CENTER R3700



Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number.

FEE TRANSMITTAL for FY 2004

Effective 10/01/2003. Patent fees are subject to annual revision.

☒ Applicant claims small entity status. See 37 CFR 1.27

TOTAL AMOUNT OF PAYMENT (\$) **385⁰⁰**

Complete if Known

Application Number **09/977,938**
Filing Date **12-12-2001**
First Named Inventor **John Marshall Armstrong**
Examiner Name **Alex P. Rade**
Art Unit **3714**
Attorney Docket No.

METHOD OF PAYMENT (check all that apply)

☒ Check ☐ Credit card ☐ Money Order ☐ Other ☐ None

☐ Deposit Account:

Deposit
Account
Number
Deposit
Account
Name

The Director is authorized to: (check all that apply)

☐ Charge fee(s) indicated below ☐ Credit any overpayments

☐ Charge any additional fee(s) or any underpayment of fee(s)

☐ Charge fee(s) indicated below, except for the filing fee to the above-identified deposit account.

FEE CALCULATION

1. BASIC FILING FEE

Large Entity Fee Code (\$)	Small Entity Fee Code (\$)	Fee Description	Fee Paid
1001 770	2001 385	Utility filing fee	
1002 340	2002 170	Design filing fee	
1003 530	2003 265	Plant filing fee	
1004 770	2004 385	Reissue filing fee	
1005 160	2005 80	Provisional filing fee	
SUBTOTAL (1) (\$)			

2. EXTRA CLAIM FEES FOR UTILITY AND REISSUE

Total Claims	Extra Claims	Fee from below	Fee Paid
Independent Claims	-20** =	X	
Multiple Dependent	-3** =	X	

Large Entity Fee Code (\$)	Small Entity Fee Code (\$)	Fee Description
1202 18	2202 9	Claims in excess of 20
1201 86	2201 43	Independent claims in excess of 3
1203 290	2203 145	Multiple dependent claim, if not paid
1204 86	2204 43	** Reissue independent claims over original patent
1205 18	2205 9	** Reissue claims in excess of 20 and over original patent

SUBTOTAL (2) (\$)

**or number previously paid, if greater; For Reissues, see above

FEE CALCULATION (continued)

3. ADDITIONAL FEES

Large Entity Fee Code (\$)	Small Entity Fee Code (\$)	Fee Description
1051 130	2051 65	Surcharge - late filing fee or oath
1052 50	2052 25	Surcharge - late provisional filing fee or cover sheet
1053 130	1053 130	Non-English specification
1812 2,520	1812 2,520	For filing a request for <i>ex parte</i> reexamination
1804 920*	1804 920*	Requesting publication of SIR prior to Examiner action
1805 1,840*	1805 1,840*	Requesting publication of SIR after Examiner action
1251 110	2251 55	Extension for reply within first month
1252 420	2252 210	Extension for reply within second month
1253 950	2253 475	Extension for reply within third month
1254 1,480	2254 740	Extension for reply within fourth month
1255 2,010	2255 1,005	Extension for reply within fifth month
1401 330	2401 165	Notice of Appeal
1402 330	2402 165	Filing a brief in support of an appeal
1403 290	2403 145	Request for oral hearing
1451 1,510	1451 1,510	Petition to institute a public use proceeding
1452 110	2452 55	Petition to revive - unavoidable
1453 1,330	2453 665	Petition to revive - unintentional
1501 1,330	2501 665	Utility issue fee (or reissue)
1502 480	2502 240	Design issue fee
1503 640	2503 320	Plant issue fee
1460 130	1460 130	Petitions to the Commissioner
1807 50	1807 50	Processing fee under 37 CFR 1.17(q)
1806 180	1806 180	Submission of Information Disclosure Stmt
8021 40	8021 40	Recording each patent assignment per property (times number of properties)
1809 770	2809 385	Filing a submission after final rejection (37 CFR 1.129(a))
1810 770	2810 385	For each additional invention to be examined (37 CFR 1.129(b))
1801 770	2801 385	Request for Continued Examination (RCE)
1802 900	1802 900	Request for expedited examination of a design application

Other fee (specify)

*Reduced by Basic Filing Fee Paid

SUBTOTAL (3) (\$) **385⁰⁰**

SUBMITTED BY

Name (Print/Type) **John Marshall Armstrong**
Signature **[Signature]**

Registration No.
(Attorney/Agent)

(Complete if applicable)

Telephone **803-996-2901**
Date **5-21-04**

WARNING: Information on this form may become public. Credit card information should not be included on this form. Provide credit card information and authorization on PTO-2038.

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.17 and 1.27. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 12 minutes to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS.
SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

If you need assistance in completing the form, call 1-800-PTO-9199 and select option 2.